

National Intelligence Daily

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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

Iran

Unidentified gunmen yesterday attacked Ayatollah Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, a close associate of Ayatollah Khomeini and Prime Minister Bazargan, near his home in northern Tehran. He is reported to be in satisfactory condition at a hospital. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, although the Forghan guerrilla group was believed to be behind the murders of two other prominent Iranians in the past month.

COMMENT: Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani has been a strident critic of the left, and it is likely that Kho-meini will blame leftists for the attack. Hashemi-Rafsanjani has worked with the Prime Minister in the past and was one of the signers of the declaration of the founding of Khomeini's Islamic Republican Party. He has been reported to have been the party's link with the Revolutionary Guard Corps.

Egypt-Iran

President Sadat told television reporters yesterday that he wants to give the deposed Shah of Iran political refuge in Egypt, according to a Western press report. Sadat said he would raise the issue with the new People's Assembly next month, after the scheduled Assembly elections. The press report noted that there was some criticism in Egypt last January when Sadat hosted the Shah after his departure from Iran and also later when the Egyptian Government failed promptly to recognize the new Islamic regime of Ayatollah Khomeini.

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Canada

In a post-election assessment of Canadian Prime Minister-elect Clark's views on foreign policy and defense, the US Embassy in Ottawa noted that Clark is a novice in those areas and will undoubtedly pay relatively little attention to them during the first months of his administration. Clark will initially focus on organizing the first Conservative government in 16 years, coping with the Quebec situation, and wrestling with economic problems. The Embassy believes that in time the Clark government will wish to put its own stamp on foreign policy but that generally the US will not encounter any problems in dealing with the new government. Clark and the Tories are committed to both NATO and NORAD, and the Embassy expects that the new government will seek to augment defense spending, including the selection of a new fighter aircraft. The Embassy noted that Clark's attitude toward the US is motivated by goodwill, but cautioned that "he does not yet grasp the complexity of our bilateral relationship. . . . "

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Portugal

Portuguese Foreign Minister Freitas Cruz told the US Charge on Thursday that tensions arising out of the dispute over a controversial law giving amnesty to a number of military officers may cause President Eanes to try to find a constitutional means of dissolving the National Assembly in late June or early July. The Foreign Minister said he was surprised at the emotion this issue has created in the presidency but is convinced Eanes will act if the Assembly overrides his veto of the law. Freitas Cruz said he thought that any compromise worked out would have to include agreement by the political parties, particularly the Socialists, to letting Eanes' veto stand, but he said he did not know if such a solution were possible.

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